

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA HELD ON THE 14th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE BOARD CHAMBERS, MONTGOMERY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, 755 ROANOKE STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA:

R-FY-15-38
A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE
COUNTY'S LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
FOR 2015

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by Matthew R. Gabriele and carried,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia hereby supports legislation that may be introduced in the 2015 General Assembly session that ends the transfer of state funding shortfalls to localities and the continued shift of services traditionally provided by the state to local government.

The Board further supports legislation that strengthens localities' ability to fund and deliver services to our citizens including:

- ***Ending Unfunded Mandates on Local Government*** by reducing state mandates in proportion to state revenue reductions. Also, shifting the delivery of state services such as transportation should end. **RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECONDARY ROADS SHOULD NOT BE SHIFTED TO LOCALITIES.**
- ***Ending Future State Funding Reductions*** in the two areas where the state has served as a partner with local government: public education and public safety.
- ***Protect Local Governments' Taxing Authority for Current Revenue Sources.*** Each General Assembly Session, bills are introduced to eliminate, restrict, or weaken, local governments' ability to levy taxes on its existing revenue sources. Montgomery County asks that our current revenue sources be protected.
- ***Strengthening the Diversity of Local Revenues by Sharing Income Taxes or Other Revenue Sources in Support of Local Services*** by distributing a percentage of individual income tax revenues, providing the authority to levy a local income tax, or allowing other sources to generate revenue locally for locally delivered services.
- ***Strengthening the County's Revenue Base by Enacting Equal Taxing Authority*** by eliminating the distinction in the taxing authority of Virginia's cities and counties.

- ***Recognizing the State's Role in Funding Quality Education*** by fully funding the state Standards of Quality (SOQ), basing teacher pay raises on actual positions, not just SOQ.
- ***Reassessment Amend Section 58.1-3330 of the Code of Virginia relating to notice of change in assessment for real property as specified in SB 678.*** Montgomery County supports Senator Watkins pre-filed bill (SB 678) which clarifies that the notice of change in assessment shall include the last two years final assessments and final tax rates and not the preceding last two assessments. For localities that conduct four and six year reassessments the last two assessments could have been in the last two years or up to four and eight years ago which makes it confusing.
- ***Amend Section 58.1-3331 of the Code of Virginia relating to the mandate that owners with less than four residential units shall be given a 45 day notice prior to hearing their appeal of the assessment before the Board of Equalization.*** Montgomery County supports language amending this section to remove the forty five day notice mandate and replace it with a minimum notice period of fifteen days with the option for the landowner to request additional time if needed. The current language creates a scheduling problem for four and six year assessment localities and does not give the landowner the option to have their hearing heard earlier than 45 days.
- ***Providing State Funding for 100% of the Costs of Optical Scan Voting Machines, 100% of the Costs of Electronic Pollbooks and 100% of the Operating Costs of the Electoral Board/General Registrar.***
- ***Sustain State aid to Library System*** through the "New Age, New Library" plan to meet the needs of 21st century library users in Virginia.
- ***Mandatory Water and Sewer Connections*** Montgomery County requests legislation adding Montgomery County to the list of counties who can require mandatory water and sewer connections pursuant to the authority contained in Section 15.2-2110 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended.
- ***Eliminate Split Voting Precincts in Montgomery County*** Montgomery County requests that technical adjustments be made to the boundaries of House Districts 7, 8, and 12 in Montgomery County in order to eliminate split voting precincts in Montgomery County
- ***Ensuring 100% of Administrative Funds for the Comprehensive Services Act (CSA)*** and increasing state matching share for all CSA costs.

- ***Processing and Marketing of Industrial Hemp*** Montgomery County supports efforts by all levels of government to allow cultivation, processing and marketing of industrial hemp.

The vote on the forgoing resolution was as follows:

AYE

Mary W. Biggs
Christopher A. Tuck
Matthew R. Gabriele
Gary D. Creed
William H. Brown

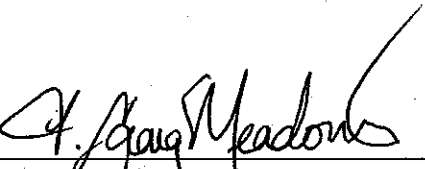
NAY

M. Todd King

ABSENT

Annette S. Perkins

ATTEST:


F. Craig Meadows
County Administrator